

THE GREEN BOOK

BY MUAMMAR AL QADHAFI

PART 1

The solution of the problem of Democracy

PART 2

The solution of the Economic Problem

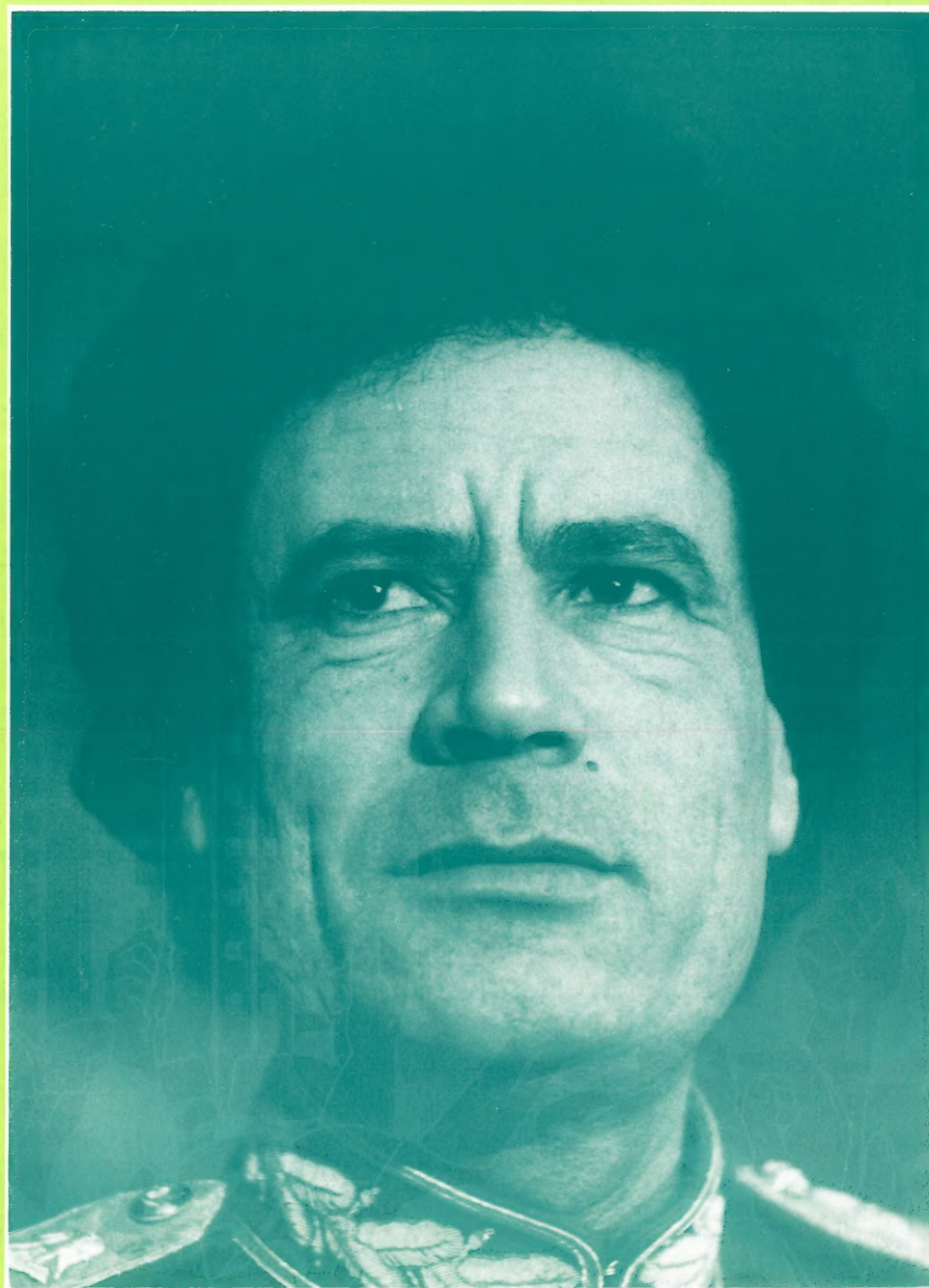
PART 3

The Social Basis of the Third Universal Theory

In these three volumes the Libyan leader examines the economic, social and political problems confronting the world today, and presents a radical programme for their solution.

The Green Book provides a comprehensive review of the theories on which the Libyan

proposals put forward by Muammer al Qadhafi are not merely theories but an explanation and insight into the structure and priorities of modern Libya.



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October 1983

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Chad Saga
Media coverage
reviewed



America takes over where Israel left off

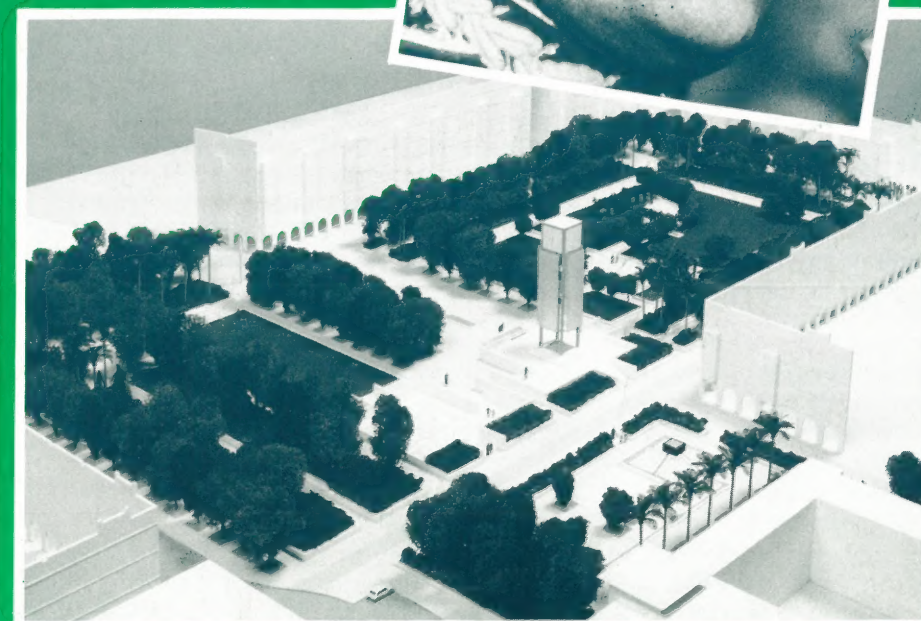
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Top Priority for Arab Unity

Muammer Qadhafi's speech on page 9



British Designs

Misrata's new park - page 14

Search for a successor to Begin



JAMAHIRIYA INTERNATIONAL REPORT

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jamahiriya review

October 1983 No 41

☐ **SPECIAL REPORT:** The 1st September speech by the Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi before thousands of Libyans at a rally to mark the fourteenth anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution provides this month's special report. In particular, he focused on the growing threat to Arab independence posed by the increasing American military activity in the region, and renewed his call for greater Arab unity and co-operation. See page 9.

☐ **CHAD SAGA:** The propaganda war in support of the Habre regime in Chad has played a major role in supporting the military involvement of the United States and France. A special correspondent examines the press coverage of the Chad conflict and asks whether the media claims stand the test of objectivity and truth. His conclusion is that the western media has shown little inclination to question the version of events presented by Habre's propaganda machine. See page 12.

☐ **LEBANON WAR:** With the sudden intervention of Western troops in the Lebanon war, there has been widespread concern even in the West that the United States is leading its allies into direct support for the Gemayel regime. Robert Miller provides the background to the renewed conflict and reviews the West's alarming military build-up in Lebanon. See page 11.

☐ **GIANT AMONGST PROJECTS:** Libya is to launch an ambitious project to convey millions of cubic metres of water from beneath the southern deserts for use in the coastal zones of the north. Dr Alan George outlines the scheme on Page 16.

☐ **BRITISH DESIGNS:** In the coastal town of Misrata, a British firm is designing a major new park, at the centre of which will be an impressive memorial to Libyans who died resisting the Italian invasion and occupation of their country. Report on page 14.

Published by Jamahiriya Review, 13A Hillgate Street, London W8 7SP. Telephone: 01-727 3131. Telex 892830 Event G. Printed by W F Aldridge & Co Limited, London SW16 6NW. We acknowledge the co-operation of JANA, the Jamahiriya News Agency, in providing its daily bulletin.

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America takes up where Israel left off

LAST MONTH saw a dramatic escalation of the conflict in Lebanon, with the bombardment of Druze Muslim positions by US warships. The Reagan administration sought to justify its military intervention in the civil war in the Chouf mountains by claiming that it was acting in support of the 'legitimate government' to counter 'aggression' by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Syria and the Soviet Union. In reality, there was not a shred of evidence to suggest that Washington was responding to anything except its own ambitions.

It is, however, ironic that Reagan should have chosen to include, of all parties, the PLO and the Syrians as two of the scapegoats for his aggressive designs. Until the post-War I carve-up of the Ottoman Empire by the Western Powers, Lebanon was in fact an integral part of Syria. Many people, both in Lebanon and Syria, consider that it still is. What is undeniable is that Lebanon is an integral part of the Arab homeland, and it is an extraordinary impertinence for the Americans, thousands of miles away, to assert that Washington has a valid interest in Lebanon, while neighbouring Syria does not.

Moreover, when Reagan condemns the presence of Syrian forces in east and north Lebanon, he conveniently forgets that they entered the country in 1976 at the express request of the Lebanese government and people. They were invited in at the height of the civil war to prevent a partition of the country which America's ally, Israel, was urging on the Lebanese Phalangists.

By the same token, it is absurd for Reagan to cast the Palestinians in the role of aggressors. The Palestinians arrived in Lebanon in the first place because they were driven there by America's allies, the Zionists, in the 1948 war. They became involved in the Lebanese civil war only in self-defence, after the Phalangists, encouraged by Israel and America, turned on them. In a complete inversion of logic, Reagan now asserts that the Palestinians, victims of American-backed Israeli Phalangist aggression, are the 'aggressors'.

There is not a shred of evidence to suggest that there was any significant Palestinian or Syrian involvement in last month's fighting in the Chouf region, and Reagan's allegations of 'Soviet aggression' ring equally hollow. The 'Russian threat' is Reagan's oldest, and most threadbare, justification for US military adventures. The fact is that while America has thousands of military personnel in Lebanon, or in warships off the Lebanese coast, there is not a single Soviet soldier anywhere in the country.

It is true that there had been aggression by outsiders in the Chouf region; but it was by Israel and its Lebanese Phalangist allies, and it pre-dated the eruption of last month's bitter fighting. When the Zionists invaded Lebanon in June last year, one of their key aims was the installation in Beirut of a right wing Phalangist government which would sign a peace treaty with Israel, expel the Syrians and Palestinians from Lebanon, and suppress the Lebanese Muslims and leftists.

Prior to the invasion, the Phalangists were a much weaker force than the Lebanese Muslims and leftists, who were allied with the Palestinian resistance and backed by Syria. The Phalangists controlled only East Beirut and an enclave along the coast to the north. After engineering the election of Amin Gemayel as President, the Zionists moved to strengthen the new regime's hand by encouraging the entry of Phalangist militia units into the areas of Lebanon under Israeli occupation. Alongside the militia went units of the reconstituted Lebanese army, which is a direct agent of the Phalangists.

The efforts of Gemayel and the Zionists to force Phalangist hegemony in Lebanon were naturally bitterly resented by the Muslim and leftist Lebanese. In the Israeli-occupied regions, however, there was little they could do to halt the spread of Phalangist power. Israel's military might was overwhelming.

It was crystal clear, however, that any Israeli retreat in Lebanon would open the way for the expulsion of the Phalangist gunmen from the areas they had infiltrated. That is precisely what happened early last month when the Zionists, despairing of ever halting the persistent resistance attacks on their forces, retreated from the Chouf to new front lines along the Awali river, which enters the Mediterranean just north of Sidon.

The Chouf is the traditional homeland of the Muslim Druze community, and the recent fighting was essentially a local affair. The Druze were merely expelling an alien and hostile rightist militia which had penetrated the region under Israel's military umbrella.

The Zionists, accustomed to swift and painless victories, have been badly mauled in Lebanon. By the time of the retreat from the Chouf, they had lost 517 dead and three thousand wounded in their invasion and occupation of Lebanon. Their mounting losses have sapped resources and morale, and Israel has now all but washed its hands of events to the north of its new front line along the Awali river.

Israel's backer, the United States, however, has taken over where the Zionists left off. As the Druze scored a string of victories against the Phalangists in the Chouf, Washington staged a massive build up of naval forces off the Lebanese coast. When this failed to intimidate the Druze, the US warships took a direct hand in the fighting, shelling Druze positions.

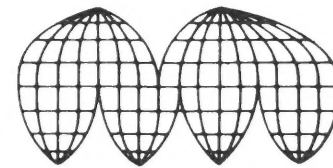
On shore, the Americans have more than 1,000 marines in the Multi-National Force, which also includes units from Italy, Great Britain and France. The MNF was installed after Amin Gemayel secured the Lebanese Presidency. The force was intended to protect defenceless Palestinian refugees from Phalangist gunmen, and also to signal the West's approval of the new regime. It was widely understood at the time, however, that the MNF would not intervene actively in any renewed fighting in Lebanon's civil war.

Last month's US escalation of the Chouf was a grave step which demonstrated, yet again, the hollowness of American claims to even-handedness in the region. Alarm was expressed even by America's allies in the MNF, who saw that Washington was in danger of embroiling itself in a new Vietnam.

America's objective is to prop up an unrepresentative and unpopular regime in Beirut, which was installed by Tel Aviv to further Israeli and western interests, and no-one has been taken in by Reagan's attempts to pretend otherwise. The American president's allegations regarding Syrian, Palestinian and Soviet 'aggression' in the Chouf were rightly ridiculed throughout the world.

America's open military intervention in Lebanon might be less disturbing if it were merely an aberration, the result of a specific set of unusual circumstances. But it is not. Such dangerous adventurism has become the hallmark of the Reagan administration. Wherever peoples have defied America's plans for them, Washington has responded with guns. By its own acts, the United States has shown that force is the only language it understands, and no-one should be surprised if the targets of Washington's aggressions, whether in Lebanon, Chad, the Libyan Jamahiriya or El Salvador, draw the appropriate conclusions and reply in kind.

A monthly
review of
Libyan, Islamic
and Third World
affairs



PANORAMA
news review



IN LONDON the Libyan People's Bureau hosted a reception on 9th September to celebrate the 14th Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution. Amongst those attending were representatives of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, members of the London diplomatic corps, academics and businessmen involved in Britain's export trade to Libya.

Pictured above (from right to left) are Mr Oliver Miles; The Hon Mr Eustace Gibbs, Vice-Marshall of the Diplomatic Corps; Lord Lennox-Boyd; Hameda Zlitni of the Bureau's Political Department; and the Secretary of the People's Committee, Adem Kuwiri.

Lebanon: Demand for UN action

A CALL for the United Nations to take urgent measures over the conflicts in Chad and Lebanon came last month from revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi.

In a letter to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, the Libyan leader declared that the two conflicts were 'more explosive than ever'. The strife in Lebanon, he said, threatened the peace and security of the Arab nation, while that in Chad posed a threat to the peace and security of Africa and the Jamahiriya itself.

Muammer Qadhafi stressed that both conflicts were essentially civil wars, and that the real danger was their internationalisation through the military intervention of western powers.

The situation in Lebanon had been 'contained', said Colonel Qadhafi. Surrounding countries had not been threatened, since the conflict was 'limited'. Peace had been possible through reconciliation between the warring factions.

However, the situation had changed because of the 'internationalisation of the conflict and the intervention of external parties, in the form of the so-called Multi-

national Force'. The Multinational Force (MNF) was installed in Beirut after the Sabra and Shatila massacres, and comprises units from the United States, France, Great Britain and Italy. Its mission was to protect Palestinian refugees from further slaughter, and also to assist the rightist regime of Amin Gemayel to consolidate its position.

'These external parties, which came to Lebanon in the same name of peace, are themselves threatening security and peace,' declared Muammer Qadhafi. He added: 'They have transformed the local Lebanese conflicts into a sectarian and international confrontation in which the Multinational Force is supporting one Lebanese faction against the others, for imperialist motives'.

He drew a strong parallel between developments in Lebanon and in Chad. The conflict in Chad was also 'between different Chadian groups, struggling for power'. But the situation had deteriorated as the result of 'US intervention, under the pretext of maintaining security'. This external interference had 'internationalised the issue, which had now become 'explosive'.

'Intervention by foreign powers has converted these wars into a new western crusade,' the Libyan leader declared warning that the

threat faced by Muslims in Lebanon and Chad 'will sooner or later force Muslims to come to the aid of their fellow Muslims in these two countries'.

Muammer Qadhafi called on the Security Council and General Assembly, which he described as 'the world's conscience', to 'work for the withdrawal of US and French forces from Chad and Lebanon,' adding: 'We view this as a necessary prerequisite to enable the warring parties in these two countries to achieve a dialogue leading to reconciliation'.

Unity moves with Morocco

TO THE consternation of Washington, which has in the past seen Morocco as a bastion of western influence in the Arab homeland, a Libyan delegation headed by Economy and Light Industry Secretary Musa Abu Freiwa has been holding a series of meetings with Moroccan ministers in Rabat, at which agreement was reportedly reached on practical economic measures which will underpin the new political rapprochement between Tripoli and Rabat.

In June, Muammer Qadhafi paved the way for a new era in

relations between the Moroccan and Libyan peoples when he held talks in Rabat with King Hassan. The two countries agreed to set aside past differences, and work towards economic and political integration, as part of wider moves leading to Maghreb and Arab unity. In August, a high-powered Libyan-Moroccan Joint Committee met in Tripoli and initialled a wide-ranging economic co-operation programme.

Musa Abu Freiwa's recent visit to Morocco was designed to maintain the pace of the unionist moves. On 22nd August the Libyan team held talks with Moroccan Minister of Energy and Mines Moussa Saadi, which reportedly centred on the possibility of Morocco importing Libyan crude oil in exchange for agricultural and industrial products. The *Reuter* news agency said on 23rd August that the officials also reviewed the scope for Morocco's Bureau de Recherches et de Participations Minières to undertake prospecting work in the Jamahiriya.

The Libyan Jamahiriya argues that common policies are a vital step towards Arab unity, and that such policies can best be attained through joint meetings of decision-making bodies, like that between the General People's Committee and the Tunisian cabinet in July. On 26th August the Kuwait news

agency KUNA disclosed that a similar joint meeting between Libya and Morocco 'will be held in Rabat late next November'. Quoting 'reliable sources', the agency said that 'the meeting would be held in implementation of the joint communique announced at the end of Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi's visit to Morocco late last June'.

KUNA also disclosed that a team of Libyan journalists held talks with Moroccan officials in August, and had also toured the Western Sahara region, in the first visit to the territory by Libyans since the start of the Sahrawi independence struggle.

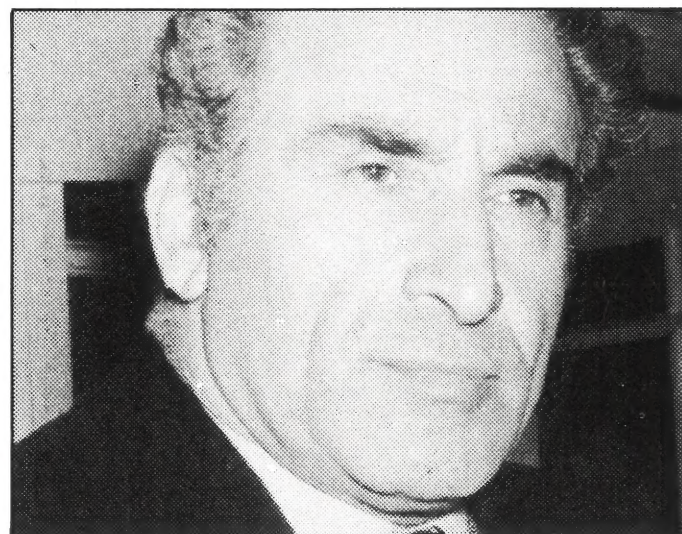
The Western Sahara issue was until recently a major bone of contention between Tripoli and Rabat. The Jamahiriya has always supported the right of the Sahrawi people to self determination, and opposed the Moroccan military takeover of the region in 1976, following the departure of the Spanish colonial administration. Last June, however, the Organisation of African Unity summit in Addis Ababa proposed a formula for the resolution of the conflict, based on a referendum to allow the Sahrawi people to decide their future. It was the Jamahiriya's firm endorsement of the OAU plan, and its declaration that Tripoli had 'fully carried out its duty' to the Sahrawi people, which opened the door for the rapprochement with Rabat.

Ties strengthen with Tunisia

A TWO-day visit by Muammer Qadhafi to Tunisia ended on 18th August with a reaffirmation by the Jamahiriya and its western neighbour of their determination to step up efforts to achieve unity between the Arab countries of north west Africa, as a step towards comprehensive Arab unity.

Following wide-ranging talks between the Libyan leader and Tunisian officials, including President Habib Bourguiba and Premier Muhammad M'zali, the two countries issued a joint communique expressing their 'satisfaction at the positive development of bilateral relations', and particularly at the outcome of July's joint meeting of the Jamahiriya's General People's Committee and the Tunisian cabinet, at which a comprehensive bilateral economic co-operation programme was agreed.

The statement stressed that Libya and Tunisia were 'determined to continue working in this direction, within the framework of an integrated, united and co-ordinated Arab Maghreb, on the understanding that it is an important and vital step towards the achievement of comprehensive Arab unity'.



Tunisian Prime Minister Muhammad M'zali.

This year has seen a series of moves by the Arab countries of north west Africa to harmonise their policies as a prelude to eventual unity. The Jamahiriya has played a key role in the process, and Muammer Qadhafi's visit to Tunis closely followed visits to Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania. The Libyan leader reaffirmed his commitment to Maghreb unity, as a building block for wider Arab unity, in his address on 1st September, marking the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution.

New links between the Libyan and Tunisian peoples have also been forged in recent weeks by other Libyan officials. On 19th August Mr Ibrahim Ibrahim Khuwaydir, the Secretary of the General People's Committee for Sports, held talks in Tunis with his counterpart, Mr Muahmed Karim, which centred on boosting co-operation in sports and youth activities.

Mr Karim held further talks on 23rd August, when he visited Tripoli and conferred with Brigadier Khweildi Hamidi, Assistant Chief of Staff of the Jamahiriya's Armed Forces. Also present was Ms Fatheyeh M'zali, Chairperson of Tunisia's Women's Union.

The co-operation accord agreed by the General People's Committee and the Tunisian cabinet in July expressly called for increased collaboration in the field of information and culture, and on 22nd August the two countries concluded a specialised broadcasting agreement. Initialed after discussions at the Tripoli headquarters of the Jamahiriya's Broadcasting Service between officials of the Secretariat of the Administrative Committee for Revolutionary Information and visiting Tunisian officials, the agreement calls for the exchange of radio and television programmes, and for the joint production of programmes.

The warm relations between

Tunisia and the Jamahiriya were underlined on 1st September by the presence at Libya's Revolution Anniversary celebrations of Tunisian Defence Minister Slaheddine Baly.

Soviet team in Tripoli

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya is a leading member of the Non-Aligned Movement of countries which reject the hegemony of any of the world's superpowers. Libya's non-alignment, however, does not imply a refusal to enjoy warm relations with the world's most powerful countries. Tripoli insists only that such relations should be based on mutual respect and understanding, and not on the domination of the weaker party by the stronger. Moscow has generally been more prepared than Washington to accept the Libyan stance, and accordingly Tripoli's relations with the Soviet Union have tended to be closer than links with the United States.

The Libyan Jamahiriya's fraternal ties with the Soviet Union were reaffirmed on 1st September, when Muammer Qadhafi received a Soviet delegation headed by Mr Balli Yazkulyev, Vice Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, who were in the Jamahiriya for the celebrations marking the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution.

On 6th September the Jamahiriya news agency JANA said that Mr Yazkulyev 'conveyed the warmest congratulations of the Soviet Union to the Revolution's leader and the Libyan Arab people,' adding that the Soviet officials had also expressed 'the Soviet leadership's support for the Jamahiriya in confronting all imperialist challenges'.

Earlier, in August, Libya hosted a visit from a Soviet Youth delega-

tion, which conferred with the General People's Committee of the Jamahiriya's students, and with Libya's Secretary for Sports, Mr Ibrahim Ibrahim Khuwaydir.

Saudi Chief of Staff in Tripoli

GENERAL MUHAMMED Saleh al Hammad, Chief of Staff of the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces, arrived in Tripoli on 3rd September for a series of intensive consultations with Libyan officials, including Brigadier Abou Bakr Younis Jaber, Commander in Chief of the Jamahiriya's Armed Forces, and Libya's Assistant Chief of Staff, Major Khweildi Hamidi.

General al Hammad's visit was the second to Tripoli by a leading Saudi official in recent weeks. On 26th August Muammer Qadhafi conferred with Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Abdelaziz, the Chairman of Saudi Arabia's Higher Youth Council, and Chairman of the Arab Sports Union, who was in the Jamahiriya for the Second African Youth Festival.

The crisis in Lebanon was understood to be high on the agenda of these Saudi-Libyan discussions. Riyadh is playing a key mediating role in a bid to end the current round of fighting.

Relations between Libya and Saudi Arabia have in the past been strained, but have improved dramatically since Muammer Qadhafi's visit to Jeddah last June, when he held wide-ranging talks with the kingdom's leaders, including King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz.

Fatah fighters demand Arab action

ANY ARAB summit meeting on the Palestine question which did not adopt a clear plan for confronting American designs in the region, and for providing practical support to the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples was doomed to failure. This was a key message of Abu Salih, one of the leaders of the New Revolutionary Movement within the Fatah Palestinian resistance organisation, at a news conference in the Libyan capital Tripoli on 3rd September.

On the recent restoration of relations with the Zionists by the Mobutu regime in Zaïre and the Doe regime in Liberia, Abu Salih stressed that a united Arab-African position against Israel was essential, and that 'any violation of the commitment would harm the future of Africa and of the Arab homeland.'

Abu Salih, together with Abu Moussa, another leader of the

Fatah revolutionaries, was in the Jamahiriya to celebrate the anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution, and on 6th September the Jamahiriya news agency JANA said that they had met with Muammer Qadhafi for talks centering on events in Lebanon and the wider Arab region.

The New Revolutionary Movement arose from a rebellion in the ranks of Yasser Arafat's Fatah resistance group last May. The rebels are opposed to Arafat's flirtations with US-sponsored 'solutions' to the Arab-Zionist conflict, arguing that these represent a sell-out of Palestinian national rights. The revolutionaries demand a return to the original principles of the Fatah movement, and a renewed emphasis on armed struggle.

Women cadets no longer 'prisoners of the veil'

AS PART of the celebrations marking this year's Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution, Muammer Qadhafi attended a series of graduation ceremonies at military colleges, in which he delivered addresses reaffirming his conviction that national defence was the responsibility of all citizens, regardless of their sex, and that total Arab mobilisation to confront Israeli expansionism could become a reality only if women, who formed half the Arab nation, were given access to weapons and training.

On 4th September, addressing female cadets who had just graduated from Tripoli's Girls' Military College, Colonel Qadhafi affirmed that the participation of women in Libya's defence forces reflected the Jamahiriya's determination that women should play a full role in their society.

Until the 1969 Revolution, women had been 'prisoners of the veil, the housekeepers and slaves of backward men'. In much of the Arab homeland, women continued to be exploited, and forced to live at the margins of society. Independence in some Arab countries was a sham, he added, because 'there is a form of internal colonialism—men are exploiting women'.

This sorry situation meant that half the human potential of the Arab nation was immobilised, and this had been a key factor in the setbacks inflicted on the Arabs by the Zionists. Israel, Colonel Qadhafi pointed out, had mobilised its entire population for its aggressions: 'Every man and woman has been mobilised to fight the Arabs'.

The Libyan leader insisted that women in the West were no less oppressed than their sisters in the



A women's brigade on the march-past during September First Revolution celebrations.

East, albeit in a different way. 'Women in these countries are crushed, and have been forced to become men-like human beings to avoid being trampled underfoot. They are not respected as women, but are forced to carry out the duties of men'.

He continued: 'These societies in Europe and America believe that they are civilised. True, they have achieved industrial progress, but they remain socially backward.'

The consistent aim of the Al Fateh Revolution had been to lift the burden of oppression from all individuals, regardless of their sex. 'We are building a civilisation, and not just an industrial-material renaissance,' he declared.

The days surrounding this year's Revolution Anniversary saw a series of graduation ceremonies at which Muammer Qadhafi reiterated his call for total Arab mobilisation to confront Israeli expansionism, and stressed the need for military training to be extended to all sectors of the population. On 24th August the Libyan leader presided at graduation ceremonies at the Secondary Naval School in Tripoli, and at the Libyan capital's Secondary Military Technical School.

Later, on 30th August, he attended training sessions on missile launchers, conducted with live ammunition by students at Tripoli's Ali Warith Secondary Military School.

Libyan riders take the gold

IN THE latest successes for the Jamahiriya's equestrian team, two Libyan riders, Abdul Majid Abushehwa and Khalifa Mlaitan, gained first and second places in the international horse jumping show which ended in the Swedish city of

Malmö on 14th August. They were riding, respectively, the horses Al Barg al Khalif and Al Marid, and both riders received gold medals to mark their accomplishments.

In third place came West Germany, followed by Austria, Australia, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Britain and Belgium.

Libya's equestrian traditions go back many centuries, and in recent years the Jamahiriya has exerted increasing efforts to establishing itself as a force in international show jumping. Despite their comparative lack of experience, the Libyan team has performed credibly at a series of European contests this summer.

ABCC stands by printing firm

THE ARAB-British Chamber of Commerce (ABCC) has reacted angrily to an attack, by the former Conservative Secretary of State for Education, Mark Carlisle, on a British printing firm which undertakes work for the Libyan Jamahiriya.

On 22nd August the *Daily Mail* quoted Mr Carlisle as saying that he was 'horrified to hear that propaganda for Colonel Qadhafi's regime is being printed here'. He was referring to a contract by the Runcorn firm Astmoor Litho in which they printed copies of Muammer Qadhafi's *Green Book*, which sets out the ideals of the Al Fateh Revolution. Astmoor Litho's printing works, which employs about forty workers, is in a parliamentary constituency adjacent to Mr Carlisle's.

In response, Mr Ibrahim Shukralla, a spokesman for the ABCC (set up jointly by all the Arab diplomatic missions in London), said that Mr Carlisle's

comment was 'a deplorable statement which cannot contribute to better trade relations between Britain and the Arab world'.

He added: 'You can't put British workers out of their jobs just because Mr Carlisle doesn't see eye-to-eye with Mr Qadhafi'.

A Department of Trade spokesman insisted that British policy was 'to encourage exports to Libya wherever possible', implying that Mr Carlisle's statement was at sharp variance with government policy. The Foreign Office refused to comment.

Britain's exports to Libya stood at more than £500 million in 1981 and, although the figure was lower last year, long term prospects for British firms trading with the Jamahiriya are considered bright.

Six-point accord with Iran

A WIDE-ranging economic co-operation agreement signed on 24th August has indicated the determination of Iran and Libya to bolster further their already close relations. The six-point accord provides for closer collaboration in the fields of trade, agriculture, air transport, capital investment, oil and culture, and was initialled in Tripoli by Mr Abdel Ati al Ubeidi, the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Secretary, and by Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, Iran's Foreign Minister.

In agriculture, the two sides agreed to the despatch to Iran of a team from the Jamahiriya's Agricultural Research Centre, to set up a joint agricultural committee. Libya will import new seeds from Iran, and Iranian agricultural specialists will share with their Libyan counterparts their expertise in the field of sand dune stabilisation. ►



Libyans determine their national and local policies directly through the country-wide network of Basic People's Congresses.

The two sides ratified a previous agreement on air transport, and agreed that Libyan technicians should visit Iran to advise on aircraft maintenance.

Bilateral trade will be stepped-up, and facilities will be provided for trade exhibitions by private firms. Existing oil industry collaboration will be strengthened.

Libya and Iran agreed to open cultural centres in each other's capital city, and the Jamahiriya sanctioned the opening in Tripoli of an office of the Islamic Republic News Agency, IRNA.

Dr Velayati arrived in the Jamahiriya for a two-day visit on 22nd August, at the head of a high ranking delegation on a tour of African countries. During his visit, the Iranian Foreign Minister conferred with Muammer Qadhafi, with the Jamahiriya's Oil Secretary, Mr Kamal Hassan Makhour, and with his counterpart, Mr Ubeidi.

Shortly after, on 30th August, Mr Ubeidi visited Tehran for further talks with Dr Velayati. He also conferred with Mr Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Iranian Majlis (parliament). IRNA said that during his visit, the Foreign Liaison Secretary passed on a message from Colonel Qadhafi to 'high ranking Iranian officials'.

Flower show proves popular

HIGH ATTENDANCE by the public was reported at a plant and flower show, which ended in Tripoli on 25th August. Staged at Al Neshar market, the show was

sponsored by the municipality's Secretariat for Land Reclamation and Agrarian Reform, and by other public corporations specialising in agriculture.

Revolutionary committees see wider role

THE JAMAHIRIYA'S Movement of Revolutionary Committees has held its Sixth Meeting, convened to formulate its tasks for the coming months. Held in the north east Libyan town of Beida, the meeting was staged under the slogan: 'For the Creation of a Revolutionary Movement at Home and Abroad'.

Under the *jamahiri* system of direct democracy, Libyans determine their national and local policies directly, by taking part in the debates of a country-wide network of Basic People's Congresses, open to all citizens. Parallel to the network of congresses is the Movement of Revolutionary Committees, linking individuals who are dedicated to the ideals of the Al Fateh Revolution. The role of the Revolutionary Committees, however, is restricted to propagating the principles of the Revolution, and inciting the people as a whole to implement them. The Revolutionary Committees have no executive powers, which remain firmly in the hands of the Libyan people as a whole.

Opening the Sixth Meeting of the Movement of Revolutionary Committees on 20th August, Staff Major Abdel Salam Jalloud stressed that the significance of the

Libyan Revolution lay in the unique solutions it offered to mankind's pressing social, economic and political problems, as set out in Muammer Qadhafi's *Green Book*. It was these principles, he declared, which had 'transformed the Libyan Revolution into an international revolution', whose ideals were universally applicable.

Major Jalloud urged that discussions at the Beida meeting should centre on ways of transforming the Revolutionary Committees into a movement 'which adopts the scientific approach, and not the emotional one'.

On 23rd August Muammer Qadhafi conferred with those attending the Beida meeting, and reaffirmed the necessity of bolstering the Revolutionary Committees Movement at home and abroad, saying that the movement was the guarantor of the Al Fateh Revolution's integrity and international influence.

Crucial tasks for African youth

YOUNG PEOPLE in Africa have a key role to play in securing their continent's unity and independence, and should not make the mistake of modelling themselves on their counterparts in Western capitalist countries. This was the central message of Staff Major Abdel Salam Jalloud in his inaugural address to the Second African Youth Festival, which opened in Tripoli on 22nd August.

Major Jalloud declared: 'The role of youth in the Third World is not like that of youth in the

capitalist European world. For African youth to copy the young people of the western capitalist countries would entail sabotaging the future of Africa'.

Rightist regimes, he explained, habitually sought to 'isolate the youth from the mainstream of society, and distract them with such activities as sports and dancing'. In this way, young people were diverted from the real issues facing their continent.

Major Jalloud insisted that the key challenge facing Africa was the resurgence of foreign domination. The independence granted to African countries by their former colonial rulers was a sham, he said, declaring: 'Independence is not merely a flag and a president'. In many African countries, policies were still formulated in foreign capitals, despite superficial appearances.

He warned, however, that colonial powers had grown impatient even with this sham independence, and were now moving to re-establish direct control. Africa faced a 'new occupation', and already 'colonialist bases have been established in the west, north and south'.

African unity, Major Jalloud continued, remained a dream as distant as African independence. 'I do not imagine that rulers are capable of achieving unity in Africa,' he said 'genuine unity' can be established only between the continent's peoples, and even then only after they had freed themselves from oppressive regimes.

He stressed that young people had a crucial role in forging African unity and securing the continent's independence. The young people attending the Tripoli festival 'hold the future in their hands', he declared.

Major Jalloud's themes were echoed by Muammer Qadhafi on 2nd September, when he met participants in the Youth Festival. Stressing that colonialist powers had 'wiped out African religions and languages, and imposed an alien culture,' he called on young Africans to launch a 'cultural revolution to liberate the continent from remnants of colonialism'. Such a revolution was essential to underpin action to reassert Africa's political and economic independence, he insisted.

The Youth Festival opened in Tripoli's sports stadium with a parade of the delegations taking part, representing most African countries, and many progressive countries in other parts of the Third World. This was followed by a spectacular display of equestrian skills by a unit of the Jamahiriya's cavalry force. Young Libyans then presented a series of parades to the rhythm of African national anthems.

The festival, which is one of the most important events for young Africans ever staged in Libya, continued throughout September.

ISRAEL AND its US backers have launched a concerted campaign to undermine the independence of the Arab nation, using classic colonialist divide-and-rule tactics. In response, efforts must be stepped-up to forge the unity of the Arab homeland. The Arabs and Muslims must understand that America is their most dangerous enemy, and must be treated as such. These were the key messages in Muammer Qadhafi's speech on 1st September, marking the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution.

Addressing a huge crowd in Tripoli's Green Square, the Libyan leader declared that Washington's hostility to the Arabs was 'historic and eternal', and that efforts to reach a understanding with the United States has proved 'hopeless'. America was 'crazed with power. It reaches accommodations only with those who submit, and declare themselves to be America's slaves'.

It was this attitude, Colonel Qadhafi explained, which underlay Washington's intractable hostility to the Libyan people. 'The United States wants us as its slaves. It wants Libya as a western satellite. It wants us to sell our freedom, just as the regimes in Egypt and Sudan have done', he declared.

He stressed: 'It is impossible to reach an amicable understanding with such a state, with such a policy. Is has proved impossible even to open a dialogue with America'.

Describing US and Israeli attempts to extend their influence as a 'new crusade', Muammer Qadhafi called on all Muslims to defend their freedom and independence. He warned that Arab rulers 'who shake the soiled hands of America' were 'deceiving themselves and their peoples. They distort established facts. The United States hates all Arabs. It hates Islam and the East. America is an oppressive crusader. Either this new crusade will be destroyed, or our existence, we in the Arab homeland, and in the Islamic East, will be destroyed'.

The new 'crusade' employed classic divide-and-rule tactics, and this had been strikingly demonstrated in Lebanon. The Israeli-US objective was to set up a series of mini-states which could easily be dominated by Washington and Tel Aviv. Muammer Qadhafi warned: 'Partition is coming to Egypt, to Syria, to Lebanon. The entire Arab homeland will be divided, and Crusader statelets will be established in Syria, Egypt and Lebanon'.

Massacres

Colonel Qadhafi stressed that events in Chad were part of the overall US crusade against Arabs and Muslims. 'They want to liquidate the Islamic presence in Chad, and in the whole of Africa. African countries with Muslim communities will witness new crusades, massacres and acts of terror. Islam in Africa is threatened just as much as Islam in the Arab East'.

The Libyan leader warned that the battle against America and Israel, and for the liberation of Palestine, was an issue which directly affected all the Arabs. 'Colonialism, which occupied Palestine, has now expanded its area of occupation. It has



Top priority for Arab unity

EVERY YEAR on 1st September, Muammer Qadhafi marks the anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution with a major address, setting the tone for the Jamahiriya's policies over the subsequent months. This year, he appealed for renewed efforts to forge Arab unity, as the only effective way of countering Israeli-American divide-and-rule tactics in the region. He also strongly reaffirmed the Libyan people's determination to defend their freedom and territory against Washington's repeated military threats and provocations.

occupied Lebanon and Egypt, and imposed capitulation on them. It is now gathering strength to destroy Syria, and it will then proceed across Syria to the Arab East, and across Egypt to the Arab Maghreb', he warned.

After the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and the massacres of Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Shatila camps in Beirut, the Arabs, regardless of their political orientation, had come to realise that 'the enemy will show no mercy'. The Arabs now understood that 'their very existence is in danger'.

This realisation, Muammer Qadhafi continued, has 'prompted the Arabs to re-think Arab unity', and to understand that it offered their only hope of containing US-Israeli expansionism. The development of the Gulf Co-operation Council, linking the Arab Gulf countries, and the recent moves towards unity in the Maghreb, pointed to the new mood. These developments were important, said Muammer Qadhafi, as first steps on the road to comprehensive Arab unity.

Pledging full support for any Arab government which moved towards unity, Colonel Qadhafi outlined the way in which local groupings of Arab countries might act as building blocks for wider unity: 'I call for the Gulf group to become a unified Arab state, as a step on the road to Arab unity. I know that Syria, regrettably, now stands alone, otherwise we would have called for the unity of the Levant as a similar step towards Arab unity. Later, two or three regional groupings could form an Arab federation or confederation'.

He affirmed that such a process was 'possible, and I shall exert all my efforts to persuade the Arabs of this new unionist policy'.

He added that the Libyan Jamahiriya now judged Arab governments on the basis of their commitment to Arab unity: 'We judge them for their ability to create a unified Arab state or an Arab confederation. If these governments cannot even establish a confederation, they will, in effect, be announcing their bankruptcy, and thereby inviting popular uprising against themselves'.

He stressed, however, that 'our immediate duty is to bolster Syria's steadfastness, to ensure that what happened in Lebanon does not happen to Syria'. Describing Syria as a bulwark against further Zionist expansionism, he urged Arab countries to rally round Damascus, if only for reasons of self-defence.

Surrender

Egypt's surrender of its independence to the United States and Israel, and Sudan's submission to Washington, had gravely weakened the overall Arab position, and were a severe set-back to the cause of Arab unity. Colonel Qadhafi condemned the efforts of the Cairo and Khartoum regimes to forge a union with a joint parliament, saying that these moves were designed not as a step towards wider unity, but rather to insulate Egypt and Sudan from the Arab nation, and to form a barrier between the Arab countries to the east and to the west.

Endorsement for pipeline scheme

LIBYA'S AMBITIOUS development programmes and the expansion of its towns and cities have led to a major increase in water demand in the coastal regions, where the majority of Libyans live. Rainfall along the coast is limited, however, and underground water reserves have proved insufficient to keep pace with the spiralling demand.

In response, the Jamahiriya is turning to the vast reserves of high quality water which lie beneath the desert wastes in the south of the country. One of the key projects in the \$62.5 billion 1981-85 development plan is a 1,900 kilometre pipeline to carry an annual 700 million cubic metres of water from wells in the Sarir and Tazerbo regions in the south eastern desert for industrial, agricultural and domestic use along the coast.

Muammer Qadhafi stressed in his 1st September speech that the scheme was of vital importance to the continued economic and social progress of the Libyan people, and he called on all Libyans to give full backing to the project. So that the implications of the scheme should be thoroughly understood, he called for 'an extraordinary session of the General People's Congress (the Libyan legislature) to discuss the project, and then to call for special meetings of people's congresses and committees, to explain the project's significance'.

Dismissing claims that last month's massive American military exercises in Egypt and Sudan were for 'training purposes', the Libyan leader declared, with sarcasm: 'American territory has become too small; the American forces cannot find anywhere for their exercises, except Egypt and Sudan'.

Despite the enormous size of the Egyptian and Sudanese armed forces, compared with those of the Jamahiriya, Washington regularly asserts that Tripoli is preparing to invade its eastern and south eastern neighbours. Such allegations were merely pretexts for the despatch of US troops to Egypt and Sudan, said Colonel Qadhafi, adding that the real mission of the American forces was to protect Washington's surrogate regimes from popular revolution.

Egypt and Sudan, he declared, must be liberated from their present regimes, affirming that this was essential for 'the rescue of the Arab nation'.

Muammer Qadhafi reaffirmed the Libyan people's determination to defend their independence against US threats and provocations. If the US Sixth Fleet sailed into the Gulf of Sirte - which is a part of the Jamahiriya's territorial waters - it would suffer 'a new Dien Bien Phu', he declared, referring to the battle which in 1954 ended French colonial rule in Vietnam.

If the Sixth Fleet invaded the Gulf of Sirte, it would face the full weight of the

Jamahiriya's air and naval forces, and Muammer Qadhafi warned that if American aggression extended to Libyan soil, 'that would mean that Libya would strike in retaliation on the European bases on which the Sixth Fleet depends'.

He stressed: 'The Gulf of Sirte is an indivisible part of Libyan territory, and all Libyans must be prepared to die in its defence'. Self-defence, he declared, was 'our right on earth and under the sun'.

Hegemony

America's attempts to extend its hegemony spanned the globe, and it was therefore logical for independent countries like the Jamahiriya to become allied with others facing similar threats. Libya's links with the Iranian Revolution, and with revolutionary movements in Latin America could be explained in these terms alone, said the Libyan leader, adding: 'When we ally ourselves with revolution in Latin America, and particularly Central America, we are acting in self defence'.

He stressed: 'The wings of this Satan must be clipped, and we must carry the war to America's own borders, just as America is threatening the Gulf of Sirte and the Tibesti Mountains' (on Libya's southern borders.)

Muammer Qadhafi reaffirmed the Jamahiriya's commitment to a peaceful resolution of the Western Sahara conflict, based on this year's Organisation of African Unity summit resolutions. These call for a referendum to allow the Sahrawi people to choose their destiny, and the Libyan leader declared: 'We must intensify political efforts to carry out a true, honest and guaranteed referendum to enable the Sahrawis to express their will and determine their future'. He pledged: 'I personally shall make efforts in this respect'.

Colonel Qadhafi also stressed that the dispute within the Fatah Palestinian resistance movement had not destroyed the integrity of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a whole, and pointed to the presence on the platform with him of Abu Salih and Abu Musa, leaders of the new revolutionary movement in Fatah, and Mr Khalid al Fahoum, who is Chairman of the Palestine National Council, one of the key bodies in the PLO.

'There is no contradiction between the revolution in Fatah and the PLO as a whole,' declared Muammer Qadhafi, adding that it was 'inevitable' that a 'renewal and revolution' should occur in Fatah.

Muammer Qadhafi expressed his confidence that comprehensive Arab unity would in fact help resolve such local inter-Arab frictions, since a unified Arab homeland would concentrate all its resources in the battle for the liberation of Palestine.

Setting the tone for the Jamahiriya's policies in the coming months, Colonel Qadhafi concluded: 'I will struggle in order to rescue the Arab nation, to overcome regionalism, to cool down hot areas in the Arab homeland, to overcome the Western Sahara problem, and the events within the Palestinian revolution'.

DEEP CONCERN has been expressed by Tripoli at the renewed fighting in Lebanon, following the withdrawal of Zionist occupation forces from the Chouf mountains, to the south east of Beirut. As fierce battles raged between Druze fighters and their Phalangist enemies, the Jamahiriya last month warned that the United States and other western powers with forces in Beirut might escalate their efforts to shape events to their advantage.

Zionist forces withdrew from the Chouf on 4th September, unable to sustain the rising toll of casualties inflicted in ambushes by Lebanese and Palestinian resistance units. During the year-long occupation, Israel had encouraged right wing Christian Phalangist forces to penetrate the region. The Chouf is the traditional heartland of the Muslim Druze community, however, and it was inevitable that the Zionists' departure would spark a Druze offensive to rid their region of the intruding Phalangists.

By mid-September, the Druze had scored a string of victories, expelling the Phalangist forces from the towns of Bhamdoun, Beiteddine, Deir al Qamar and Kafr Mattar, while the town of Souk al Gharb was under heavy siege.

As the Druze pressed their offensive into the suburbs of Beirut, there were signs that the operation was merely the first phase in a wider struggle to liberate the Lebanon from the Phalangist regime of Amin Gemayel, which was installed by the Israelis last year, with American approval. On 13th September the *Times* reported that 'Shia Muslim militiamen inside Beirut attacked American marines (yesterday) and Lebanese troops around the west of the city'.

It added: 'The (Gemayel) government fears that the Druze forces fighting the Lebanese Army in the mountains may be able to reach the west Beirut perimeter, and yesterday's outbreak of shelling and sniper fire looked suspiciously like a rehearsal for a link-up between the Druze and their Shia allies'.

Following last years massacres of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut, the United States, Britain, France and Italy despatched military units to the city, to form the Multinational Peacekeeping Force (MNF). The force was charged with protecting the refugees, but at the same time it was intended as a tangible expression of western approval for the Gemayel regime.

Ominous

An ominous aspect of the renewed fighting in Lebanon has been the willingness of western powers with MNF units to intervene against the Druze and progressive forces. In the run-up to Israel's withdrawal from the Chouf, these states moved to bolster their forces. On 27th August President Reagan ordered a naval amphibious task force, comprising three ships, 2,000 marines and 1,100 naval personnel, to sail for the eastern Mediterranean. The same day, he ordered the naval battlegroup headed by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier



Gemayel: The MNF is a tangible expression of western approval of his regime.

Fanning the flames of a new war

AS THE latest phase of the Lebanese civil war erupted, the Libyan Jamahiriya has warned western powers not to intervene to prop up the Gemayel regime in Beirut. Robert Miller reviews the background to the renewed conflicts, and the west's alarming military build-up in Lebanon.

Eisenhower, which was already stationed off Lebanon, to remain there indefinitely. Also on 27th August, France announced that it was sending the aircraft carrier *Foch* into Lebanese waters. Later, on 10th September, Britain disclosed that six Buccaneer warplanes had been sent to Cyprus, and three days later Washington announced that the 45,000 ton battleship *New Jersey* was en route to Lebanese waters to back up the US forces onshore.

The western powers have demonstrated their readiness to use their formidable array of military hardware. In early September, after artillery fire from the mountains surrounding Beirut had killed several French and US soldiers, American F-14 fighters from the *Eisenhower*, French Super-Etendards from the *Foch* and British Buccaneers from Cyprus buzzed Beirut. And on 8th September the US frigate *Bowen*, a member of the *Eisenhower* battlegroup, opened fire on an artillery position which had been pounding American marines in the city's suburbs.

The Gemayel regime knows that its days are numbered. Israel has retreated behind the Awali river line and, while retaining one third of the country under its occupation, has washed its hands of events in the north, which it proved unable to control. The Phalangists know that they can no longer rely on Israeli help, and that their only hope of surviving a general uprising in Lebanon is increased military support from the West, for which Amin Gemayel has already appealed.

Massacres

After the Beirut massacres, the Jamahiriya acquiesced in the arrival of the MNF in the city, arguing that it offered a degree of protection to the hapless Palestinian refugees. Tripoli was nevertheless apprehensive that the force might be the spearhead for a wider western military intervention in the region, and last month's escalation in their size and role prompted a series of sharp warnings from Libya.

On 1st September the Jamahiriya news agency JANA announced that Muammer Qadhafi had sent urgent messages to Arab leaders affirming that the French and US forces in Lebanon were 'no longer forces of peace, but forces of aggression and war, forces of an invading crusade'. The MNF, he said, had 'lost the justification for its presence', and should be 'expelled'.

A similar tone was struck in a commentary by JANA's Political Editor on 6th September. The US was 'striving to escalate the war, acting in concert with France and other countries seeking to fulfil colonialist ambitions against Arabs and Muslims.' The boosted western military involvement in Lebanon posed a 'threat not only to Lebanon, but to the entire Arab nation' and 'undermined regional and world peace and security'.

On 12th September, as the western powers and the Gemayel regime sought to blame Syria for the renewed fighting, the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Bureau issued a special statement warning the US and France not to step up their involvement in a military campaign which posed a threat not only to Lebanese leftists and Muslims, but also to Syria, which backs them. Reaffirming the Jamahiriya's 'continuing support for Islamic and progressive forces in Lebanon', the Bureau warned that Tripoli would vigorously resist 'any aggression or threat directed at Syria' since this would be considered 'as a threat to the security and peace of the Libyan Arab people'.



Paratroopers: the largest French military contingent in Africa since the Algerian war.

Habre's lies exposed

DISINFORMATION HAS played a crucial role in the current round of the Chadian civil war, with the western media dutifully parroting the claims and allegations emanating from the illegal regime of Hissene Habre in N'Djamena and from its backers in Washington and Paris. In recent weeks, however, facts have emerged which the media has been unable to ignore, and which have forcefully demonstrated the mendacity of the Habre regime.

The 'Libyan threat' has been Habre's constant cry as he seeks to wring additional military backing from the United States and France and, despite the absence of a shred of supportive evidence, much of western public opinion has been misled into believing that the Jamahiriya's armed forces are deeply involved in the Chadian conflict.

The Habre regime has maintained its propaganda campaign in recent weeks, but for once, the media took the trouble to check the claims, and they were exposed as hollow. On 30th August Hissene Habre alleged that Libya was taking advantage of a lull in hostilities in the north to 'spread subversion and disorder' throughout the southern regions of the country. Tripoli's objective, claimed Habre, was to 'compel our forces to operate on a multitude of fronts while the Libyans consolidate their grip on the north'. He attributed a spate of violent incidents in the south to Libyan-backed rebels, which he said had infiltrated from Sudan and the Central African Republic.

Hissene Habre's claims were supported by 'western diplomatic and military sources', those stalwarts which have played

FROM THE start of the current round of fighting in Chad, the western media have shown little inclination to question the version of events presented by the regime of Hissene Habre in the capital, N'Djamena, and its backers in Washington. Recent revelations by the London Guardian newspaper, however, have demonstrated the way in which western opinion has been systematically deceived.

a crucial part in the N'Djamena regime's propaganda war.

On 10th September, however, the London *Guardian* revealed that the violence in the south had been perpetrated not by 'Libyan-backed rebels', but by Hissene Habre's own forces. The paper said that the atrocities had driven thousands of southerners into the bush, and added that most people in the south saw Habre as an oppressor, implying that they would welcome the return to N'Djamena of President Goukouni Oueddei's legislative Government of Unity and National Transition, whose forces now control the northern half of the country.

'Accounts of recent developments in Chad, totally at variance with the official line of statements from the government of President Hissene Habre, have reached the *Guardian* from West Europeans living in the south of the country,' the paper said, adding that 'their accounts give weight to the view that the people of Chad, rather than the supporters of President Habre himself, are the ones in need of help'.

Orgy

'According to these accounts,' the *Guardian* continued, 'soldiers of the Chadian army have, for the past few months been engaged in an apparent orgy of looting and raping in villages throughout the south of the country, killing where they have met resistance and burning entire settlements to the ground'.

A west European teacher who has lived in the country for fifteen years was quoted as saying that 'these attacks are the responsibility of President Habre's FAN (Forces Armées du Nord) troops, who arrived ostensibly to flush out "rebels" being harboured by the villagers'.

'There are truly dozens of villages in the south of Chad,' said the teacher, 'that have been burned to the ground. There are also thousands of people living in the deep bush under shelters made from tree branches – and it is the height of the wet season'.

The teacher added that there were 'many hundreds' of soldiers who had deserted Habre's army, that their strength was increasing steadily, and that they regularly ambushed Habre's troops, seizing weapons and supplies.

'Virtually the whole of the south is behind these men in the bush,' the European teacher continued, 'and they could probably take over without too much difficulty once the word is given'. The *Guardian* stressed that the people in the bush 'would be willing to accept Libyan help – forming the southern half of a pincer around the capital, N'Djamena – if this were somehow made available'.

The paper disclosed that the southerners are outraged at Habre's claims, echoed by Washington and Paris, alleging that the liberation armies in the north of Chad comprised Libyans. 'They are angry that their relatives fighting against President Habre from the north have been called "Libyans" by the foreign media, when in fact they are only accepting "Libyan help" to get rid of a ruler they regard as an "oppressor" who has "completely fooled" Western leaders into giving him aid'.

Such accounts of the realities on the ground appear to have had a sobering impact on the media. On 10th September the *Guardian* went on to report claims by the Habre regime's information minister, Mahamat Soumaila, that a 'strong column of Libyan forces was moving south towards government positions at Koro Toro, 375 miles north of N'Djamena'.

The paper commented, however, that 'Mr Soumaila was unable to give details of the alleged Libyan column, and it appeared likely that most people in it would be rebels of the force led by Goukouni Oueddei'.

EVERY MUSLIM is urged to make the pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in his or her lifetime. Setting down God's words in the *Koran*, the Prophet Mohammed proclaimed that 'pilgrimage into the temple is a duty owed to God by all people who are able to undertake it'. Along with belief in one God, recognition of the Prophet Mohammed as his messenger, fasting during the month of Ramadan and payment of the *zakat* or charitable tax, the pilgrimage to Mecca, the Hajj as Muslims call it, is one of the five fundamental pillars of Islam.

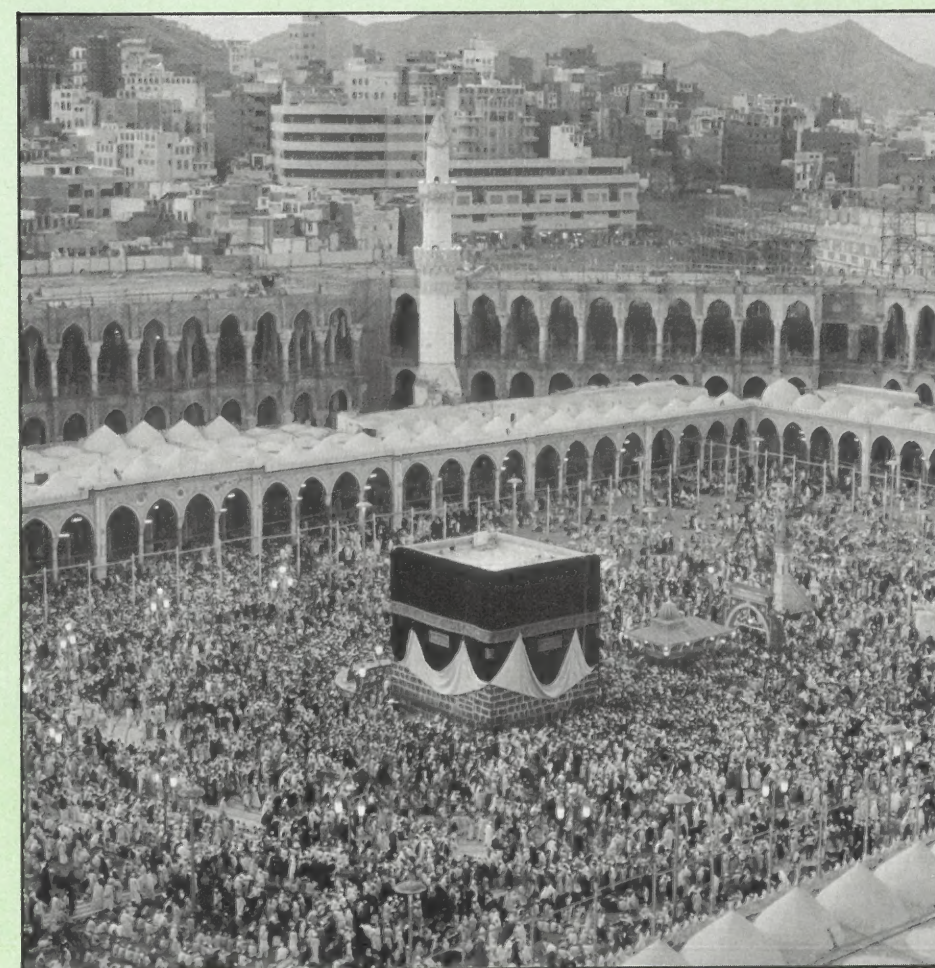
Although Muslims can travel to Mecca for religious worship at any time throughout the year, the *Koran* sets aside for Hajj a number of appointed days in the sacred month of Dhu al-Hijjah, which coincides with September in the Gregorian calendar for 1983. During that period, following their arrival at the holy city, they will perform with other believers a precise sequence of rituals prescribed by the Prophet Mohammed to concentrate their energies and minds on their spiritual awareness of God.

The pilgrims commence the rites of Hajj after the familiar *tawaf* or circumambulation of the *kaaba*, the covered black stone in the centre of the mosque. Usually they complete seven circuits of the *kaaba* before offering prayers to God at the temple of Ibrahim, where they kiss the pillar or *Hajr Aswad*. The purpose of the ritual is to pay homage to God at the temple of his Prophet Ibrahim, who was the first prophet to assert belief in one God and erect a temple for his worship. The *Koran* enjoins all pilgrims to behold the temple of Ibrahim because it is 'rich in blessing and a source of guidance to all the world'.

The pilgrims next move on to their resting place at El Mina, a hard rocky area some distance removed from the temple at Mecca. They stay in this spot for several days, crowded together in rows of tents. The conditions are intentionally rigorous for the believers, obliging them to practice co-operation and understanding in a harsh desert environment. Despite the overcrowding, the pilgrims are expected to keep their self-control all the time. Fighting or falling out with other pilgrims is strictly forbidden by the Prophet.

The *Koran* instructs pilgrims to observe brotherly relations throughout the Hajj, putting behind them former quarrels and disputes. At the same time, it demands various forms of physical abstinence from the pilgrims. Addressing some of the first pilgrims on 24th Dhu al-Qe'dah in the 10th year of Hijra, the Prophet Mohammed called on those undertaking the pilgrimage 'not to indulge in any sexual activity or immoral behaviour'. Declared the Prophet: 'Whoever undertakes the pilgrimage should refrain from lewd speech, from all wicked conduct and from quarrelling.'

The performance of the Hajj is designed to uplift Man's mind from his material and physical existence to spiritual consciousness of God. At El Mina the pilgrims devote their time to prayer and conduct a symbolic stoning of the devil, repudiating wickedness



The Hajj: Islam's pilgrimage to Mecca

THIS MONTH thousands of Muslims will undertake the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. Clothed in no more than a simple linen garment or ihram, they will arrive from countries all over the world to join in a unique collective celebration of their faith at the site of the first temple erected for the worship of one God. Jon Bearman explains the meaning and messages of their pilgrimage.

for the path of righteousness. They also commence the practise of walking between the rocks of Al Safa and Al Marwah, where the Prophet Mohammed affirmed his belief in the existence of one God, proclaiming: 'There is no God but Allah, one, there is no partner with him. He is sovereignty, to him praise is due and He is powerful over everything.'

At sunrise of the 9th of Dhu al-Hijjah the pilgrims retire from El Mina to the Plain of Arafat, some nine miles from Mecca, until the end of the Hajj. The mass gathering here is the highpoint of the pilgrimage.

Thousands of Muslims assemble for collective prayer to God in a reaffirmation of their faith before they proceed back to Mecca for the final rites of the pilgrimage. It is a triumphal demonstration of the unity and universality of Islam. The pilgrims depart after the afternoon prayer.

The experience of the Hajj is one of renewal. In the *Koran* God called on the prophet Mohammed to ordain the pilgrimage to Mecca as a means of fortifying and revitalizing their faith. He was instructed to 'proclaim the duty of Hajj to all the people of the world the duty of the pilgrimage' in order that they would 'experience much that shall be of benefit of them and they might extoll the name of God on the days appointed'. Hajjis, those who have undertaken the disciplines of the pilgrimage, emerge strengthened in the understanding of their faith and with a deeper knowledge of their responsibilities in the world as Muslims.

Misrata Park commemorates resistance fighters

ALL THE Jamahiriya's towns and cities are being adorned with new parks, to enable citizens to relax outdoors. In the coastal town of Misrata, the British firm of Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall and Partners, is designing a major new park, at the centre of which will be an impressive memorial to Libyans who died resisting the Italian invasion and occupation of their country.

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya attaches great importance to the social wellbeing of all its citizens, and this concern extends to the provision of a full range of facilities for leisure and recreation. In all the country's towns and cities, new parks and squares are being laid out to ensure that rapid urban development does not deny Libyans the opportunity for relaxation outdoors. Misrata, on the coast 200 kilometres east of Tripoli, is one of the towns where impressive park developments are planned or under way, and the municipality has commissioned the British consulting firm, Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall and Partners to design a series of the new schemes.

Perhaps the most interesting of the parks which the Edinburgh-based firm is designing is the Goz Tik Memorial Park, which will function as a monument to the Libyan fighters who died resisting the Italian invasion and occupation of their country earlier this century.

About half the park site comprises a sandy mound, rising to about 13 metres. The mound is of major local and Libyan significance. Misrata was a centre of

resistance to the Italian occupation, and many Libyan fighters were executed on, and buried in, the mound. Goz means 'mound of sand', and Tik is the name of the tribe which once populated the area.

The monument to Libya's fallen heroes will be sited on the mound. Exhibition halls will be built semi-underground, and from the surface of the mound will rise an impressive structure, clad in white marble with a black base, and with a tapering tower.

The mound itself will be terraced with sweeping curves, and the slopes stabilised with special interlocking concrete blocks. From the surrounding gardens, steps will lead up to the middle level terrace, where the entrance to the monument will be sited. An entrance hall will lead onto a smaller rough timber-lined cells, containing historical relics of the resistance fighters' struggle.

By means of an optical device known as a camera obscura, panoramic views of Misrata will be projected onto a white table at the centre of a separate hall, accessible from the exhibition hall by a curved tunnel leading up a ramp. The camera obscura lens will be housed at the top of the tower, and light from the lens will pass down a tube inside the tower.

Marble

The floor of the camera obscura hall will be of black marble, and the walls will be lined with acoustic panels faced with black timber slats. The circular hall will be dimly illuminated from a high-level, black-lit frieze, depicting the Libyan struggle for independence.

Another curved and ramped tunnel will lead from the camera obscura hall to a paved area on the top of the mound, offering splendid views of the surrounding gardens and city.

The monument on the Goz Tik mound will lie at the centre of formal gardens containing a range of leisure facilities. From a car park, visitors will walk past a cafeteria and children's playground, through the park to the courtyard garden, which will be enclosed by a double arcade. It is from this garden that the flight of steps leads up to the exhibition hall entrance.



Model of the war memorial to the Libyans who died resisting the Italian invasion. Photo: Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall & Partners.

The courtyard garden, itself, set within formal gardens, will be designed on the Islamic theme of the four rivers of paradise. The surrounding double arcade will act as a high-level walkway, which will eventually connect with a pedestrian bridge over the nearby ring-road, while the alley between the two arcades will serve as a shady walkway at ground level.

Other features within the Goz Tik scheme will include sitting areas, an aviary (on the lower terrace of the mound), a special meditation garden, shady walkways, and a special plantation of desert plants and flowers. Throughout, a network of trees will give shade, and lower areas will have lawns and flower beds. Fountains and water features will be key elements in the project.

A park for the main town square is another of the Misrata schemes in which Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall are

involved. The square will be the principal civic open space in the town, and will provide shady avenues, sitting areas, fountains and flls.

The major building materials will be marble and textured concrete, while avenue trees will rise from cast iron tree grilles, patterned in an Islamic motif. Away from the main avenues, quiet sitting areas will be surrounded by grass, flowering shrubs and trees. A small kiosk will sell soft drinks to be enjoyed in the surrounding gardens.

A central feature will be a clock-tower, which will form a key element in the skyline of modern Misrata.

When completed, the square will offer the citizens of Misrata an elegant and lively meeting place, and an impressive setting for the Town Hall and other proposed civic buildings on the square.



Harnessing underground water is a crucial project.

Tapping the desert's water

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya is gearing-up for one of the most ambitious single development projects in its history – a \$5 billion scheme to pump millions of cubic metres of water from beneath the southern deserts for agricultural, industrial and domestic use in the coastal regions, where the majority of Libyans live, and where many of the country's agricultural and industrial projects are located.

The project is the key to the Jamahiriya's long-term economic wellbeing. More than ninety per cent of the country comprises arid desert. Only the highlands of the north east and north west receive rainfalls, and then only intermittently. Most of Libya's water comes from underground reserves along the coast, but the Jamahiriya's rapid agricultural, industrial and urban expansion has stretched these resources beyond their limits. Over much of the coastal zone, over-pumping of ground water has led to falling water levels in wells, and the underground supplies have been contaminated by sea water intruding from the Mediterranean.

Faced with this situation, the Jamahiriya has had little option but to turn to the vast reserves under the southern deserts. Discovered in 1964, this water is of very high quality, and to date has been tapped only for irrigation schemes at Kufra and Sarir in the south east of the Jamahiriya and in the Sebha region in the south west. No-one knows exactly how much water lies beneath the desert, but one estimate says that two billion cubic metres per annum could be extracted for up to fifty years.

The 1981-85 development plan includes a project to pump 700 million cubic metres of water per annum from wells in the Tazerbo and Sarir areas, in the desert south of

LIBYA IS to launch an ambitious project to convey millions of cubic metres of water from beneath the southern deserts for use in the coastal zones to the north. Dr Alan George outlines the scheme, stressing that it is crucial for the Jamahiriya's long term water security.

Benghazi, and to transport the water north to the coast along a 1,900 kilometre pipeline. This will meet the coast at Ajedabia, and branches will run west to Sirte and east to Benghazi.

The water will be gathered from 270 wells around Tazerbo and Sarir. Submersible pumps will push the water uphill until the highest point along the pipeline is reached – about 300 metres above sea level. The water will then flow north by gravity, with pressure being boosted by a pumping station sixty kilometres south of the coast. At Ajedabia, the pipe will lead into a reservoir, from which the eastern and western branches will lead.

The scheme is being administered by the Coastal Belt Water Authority, which in 1980 appointed the British subsidiary of the American consulting firm Brown & Root as project management consultants. The award is imminent to South Korea's Dong Ah Construction & Industrial Company of the first major contract for the scheme –

covering pipelaying and the manufacture of concrete-reinforced steel pipe – and worth \$3.6 billion.

Factories

Dong Ah will build two factories, one at Sarir and the other at Marsa Brega, along the coast. These will produce nearly 2,000 kilometres of pipe, of which ninety per cent will be four metres in diameter, and the rest between 1.6 and four metres. The Brega factory will have two production lines, and will supply pipe for the coastal sections of the scheme. The Sarir factory will supply pipe for the trans-desert section, and will have three production lines.

Under a \$420 million sub-contract, the American firm of Price Brothers will supply the equipment for the factories, and the licence for the manufacturing process.

Dong Ah will dig trenches for the pipes while the factories are under construction. To meet the scheme's 1989 deadline, a 7.5 metre section of pipe will have to be laid every fifteen minutes, day and night. Each section of pipe will weigh about 80 tonnes, and to facilitate pipelaying Dong Ah will build a non-asphalted road parallel to the pipeline.

Over the six year contract period, the South Korean firm will have an average of about 8,000 workers in the Jamahiriya, for whom it will build special accommodation facilities.

The \$110 million contract for the water wells in the Sarir and Tazerbo areas is expected to be awarded before the end of the year to the Yugoslavian firm Geotekhnika. The client will be the Libyan Dams and Soils Authority, rather than the Coastal Belt Water Authority which is administering the rest of the scheme.

In a second phase, the trans-desert pipeline will be extended south to Kufra, at a cost of \$1.2 billion, and the daily throughput will rise to 3.6 million cubic metres.

In the longer term there are plans for a similar water carrier in the west of the Jamahiriya. Brown & Root have been appointed management consultant for a scheme to extract water from the Hasawana area, 400 kilometres south of Tripoli, for which an initial ground survey is already being undertaken by Britain's Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners.

The importance which the Jamahiriya places on the eastern water pipeline was underlined by Muammer Qadhafi in his Revolution Anniversary address, in which he called for special meetings of the General People's Congress (GPC) and of local people's congresses and committees to study the scheme and its implications. On 12th September the GPC held an extraordinary session in the south eastern town of Kufra, at which the revolutionary leader stressed the crucial significance of the pipeline scheme for the continued wellbeing of the Libyan people.

On 14th September the Jamahiriya news agency JANA said that the one-day meeting had ended after expressing 'full confidence in the project's success'.

Libya second-largest oil supplier to EEC

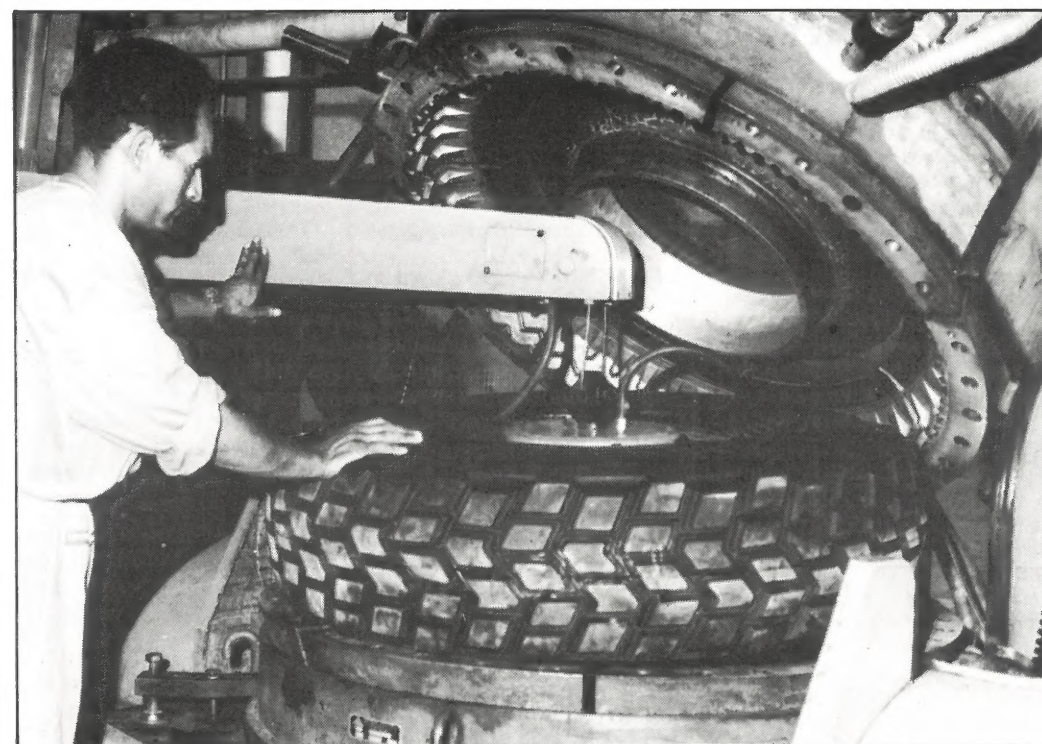
THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya has replaced the United Kingdom as the second largest oil supplier to the European Economic Community, after Saudi Arabia.

The West German economics daily *Handelsblatt* disclosed on 29th August that Libya supplied 30.8 million tonnes of crude oil for the West European market in the first quarter of this year.

In 1982, the Jamahiriya supplied 9.4 per cent of EEC oil imports, but its share has risen to 12.8 per cent in the first three months of this year.

West Germany imported 5.8 million tonnes of Libyan crude between January and July this year, accounting for 15.2 per cent of its total crude imports in the period.

Handelsblatt added that Iranian oil exports to the EEC had increased from 3.2 million tonnes in the first seven months of last year to 5.9 million tonnes in the same period this year.



Tyre manufacture plays an important part in Jamahiriya's motor industry.

Gearing up for vehicle manufacture

THE JAMAHIRIYA'S motor industry was given a major boost on 27th August when Muammer Qadhafi formally opened the country's first bus and truck assembly plant, and an associated tyre factory, at Tajoura, near Tripoli.

The bus and truck plant has been under construction since 1977, and has an annual capacity of 600 buses and 2,900 trucks, which will meet a significant portion of Libyan demand. The venture was set up, and will be run by, the Libyan Truck Company, created in December 1976 with a capital of LD 12 million, of which 75 per cent was put up by the Jamahiriya and the rest by the Italian conglomerate Fiat. Italy's Calabrese company is establishing a truck body and trailer assembly plant nearby, and this is near completion.

Initially the truck and bus plant will rely heavily on imported Fiat components, but the hope is that between 20 and 25 per cent of parts will eventually be manufactured in the Jamahiriya. A key feature of the complex is a glass fibre plant. Initially this will produce cabs for trucks but, in the longer term, bus bodies will also be manufactured.

On 28th August Tripoli radio said that the Tajoura tyre factory has an annual capacity of 450,000 outer and 540,000 inner tubes, 216,000 lorry tyres, and 300 tonnes

of semi-processed materials for tyre remoulding.

Tajoura is set to become the focus of the Jamahiriya's motor industry. It was already the site of a tractor assembly plant, opened in 1981.

Chinese show attracts 60,000 visitors

SIXTY THOUSAND people visited a twelve-day Chinese economic and trade exhibition which closed in Benghazi, the Jamahiriya's second largest city, on 5th August. On show were Chinese textiles, arts and crafts, foodstuffs, machinery, electrical equipment, chemicals and electronic products.

On 8th August the Chinese news agency XINHUA quoted one of the Chinese officials who organised the fair as saying that it had promoted understanding between the peoples of Libya and China, and contributed to the development of the economic and trade ties between the two countries.

Jobs for Moroccan workers

MOROCCO IS to send 14,000 more workers to the Jamahiriya by the end of the year, under a comprehensive co-operation agreement signed with Libya on 5th August (see *Jamahiriya Review*, September 1983).

The accord was concluded in Tripoli at the end of a session of the Libyan-Moroccan Joint Committee, which was set up during Muammer Qadhafi's talks with King Hassan in Rabat in July. The Joint Committee meeting came as part of efforts to bring unity to the Arab countries of north west Africa, in which the Jamahiriya is playing a leading role.

On 6th August the Moroccan daily *Maroc Soir* disclosed that under the agreement, Libya will grant most-favoured-country status to Moroccan workers, of whom there are already 20,000 in the Jamahiriya. The paper added that Tripoli had also agreed to reduce the tariff on goods imported from Morocco by between thirty and forty per cent.

The new agreement will help ease Morocco's unemployment problems. *Maroc Soir* said that nearly one million people in Morocco are jobless.

New planes and routes for LAA

LIBYAN ARAB Airlines (LAA) has taken delivery of the first two Fokker F-28 passenger aircraft of a \$12.1 million order for three placed with the Dutch company. The third aircraft will be delivered next February. The three Mk 4000 model F-28s can each carry 75-100 passengers.

LAA's purchase of the Dutch aircraft provides another example of how the Reagan administration's economic blockade of the Jamahiriya is backfiring against US

manufacturers, and opening up new trade opportunities for European exporters. LAA had expressed an interest in buying more Boeing 737s, but Washington has vetoed sales of American airliners to Libya.

LAA's business has been expanding rapidly in recent years and the airline has opened a succession of new internal and international routes. On 1st July new air taxi services were inaugurated from Tripoli, Benghazi and Sebha to several provincial centres, using Spanish-made Casa (Construcciones Aeronauticas) C-212s, wet leased from Malta's Midavia airline. The planes carry between 19 and 26 passengers, and reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Destinations served are, from Tripoli: Nalut, Bani Walid, Zuwara and Misrata; from Sebha: Aozou, Ubari, Al Gatrout, Brak and Murzuk; and from Benghazi: Zuweitina, Martuba, Marsa Brega and Ras Lanouf.

Textile complex inaugurated

THE WOOLLEN textiles complex at Bani Walid, built at a cost of LD 40 million, was formally inaugurated by Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi on 29th August, as part of the celebrations marking the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution.

The complex, which covers an area of ten hectares, employs 650 workers and has an annual capacity of 250,000 square metres of woven

carpets, 620,000 square metres of unknown material for carpet manufacture, 400,000 jumpers and 200 tonnes of wool for the production of blankets.

The scheme is one of the most important in the light industry sector of the Jamahiriya's 1981-85 development plan. LD 1.2 billion has been allocated for light industrial investment over the plan period, of which LD 95 million is being spent this year.

Petrochemicals landmark

A LANDMARK in the Jamahiriya's industrial development programme was reached on 28th August, when Muammer Qadhafi inaugurated the second ammonia plant at the petrochemicals complex under development at the coastal town of Marsa Brega, about 200 kilometres south of Benghazi.

The 1,000 tonnes per day capacity plant was built at a cost of \$150 million by Snamprogetti and Saipem, both subsidiaries of the Italian state hydrocarbons concern Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi.

The first ammonia plant at Marsa Brega was opened in 1977. Built at a cost of \$190 million by West Germany's Friedrich Ude, it has a daily capacity of 2,000 tonnes.

Marsa Brega is also the site of two urea plants and a methanol plant. A second methanol plant is planned and a third urea plant is under construction.

The Jamahiriya's 1981-85 development plan allocates \$12.9 billion to the establishment of new industrial projects - more than for any other sector. Of the total \$8.9 billion has been earmarked for heavy industrial plants, including petrochemicals schemes.

Wadi Qatara project will boost food output

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya is committed to a rapid expansion of its agricultural output, with the aim of achieving food self sufficiency by the turn of the century. Agricultural investment in the \$62.5 billion 1981-85 development plan is set at \$10.1 billion - higher than for any other sector except industry.

On 23rd August Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi formally inaugurated the country's latest agricultural scheme, at Wadi Qatara, near Benghazi. Covering two thousand hectares, the project includes 134 farms of ten hectares each. Two hectares on each farm

have been reserved for vegetable cultivation, and grains and fruit will be produced on the rest. Irrigation water will come from wells and rainfall, and storage is provided by a dam specially built for the project. The scheme includes a small village, covering an area of two hectares, and the cultivated area is surrounded by a 650 hectares green belt.

The efforts being deployed to boost agricultural output were also highlighted on 15th August when the Jamahiriya news agency JANA disclosed that the People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation has completed a survey of three million hectares in different parts of the Jamahiriya, aimed at determining agricultural potential and at producing detailed topographical maps.

JANA added that a separate survey of the natural environment had been undertaken in an area of 500,000 hectares located on the coast between the towns of Zuweitina and Ras Lanouf. The 1981-85 development plan calls for special efforts to expand cultivation in the Jamahiriya's coastal regions.

Modern facilities for the disabled

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya's concern for the care and welfare of its disabled citizens was underlined in late August when Muammer Qadhafi formally opened two new ultra-modern rehabilitation centres, and an institute for the deaf and dumb, as part of the celebrations marking the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution.

One of the rehabilitation centres was opened in Benghazi on 22nd August, and the other in Tripoli three days later. The two centres are of similar design, and each cost \$48.8 million to build and equip. The main contractor was the Swedish firm Cementgjuteriet, and design was by the London-based W T Partnership. Each centre has a hundred-bed hospital, with an operating theatre and X-ray equipment, and each has a swimming pool and a gymnasium. Each can cater for more than two hundred out-patients daily.

In addition to medical treatment, the centres offer a wide range of occupational therapies, which encourage disabled Libyans to gain confidence and play a fuller role in their society. Instruction is given in activities such as telex-typing, home management, weaving, knitting, carpentry and leather working.

On 25th August Colonel Qadhafi also formally inaugurated the Amal Institute for the Deaf and Dumb in

Tripoli, which can accommodate five hundred students. The institute offers both medical treatment and occupational training, and includes libraries, reading rooms, a 600-seat theatre, sports facilities and an exhibition hall where displays of students' handicrafts will be mounted.

The Jamahiriya has a relatively high proportion of disabled citizens. In part this is the legacy of the grinding poverty of the pre-oil era, when malnutrition and disease took a terrible toll. The high number of handicapped also results from accidental detonations of Second World War mines and other munitions, which the foreign armies left on Libyan territory in large quantities. In 1981 a conference in Geneva, jointly sponsored by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the Jamahiriya's Foreign Liaison Bureau, was told that since 1960 mine explosions had killed 1,956 Libyans and maimed 1,777.

In August it was disclosed that West Germany's Engineering, Consulting & Trading Company has won a \$13.3 million contract from the Jamahiriya's National Oil Corporation (NOC) to clear an estimated 150,000 mines buried along the coast during World War II. The mines were laid in an area which the NOC wishes to explore for oil.

Road development encourages African integration

AS PART of the celebrations marking this year's Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution, a series of major new roads have been opened, which as well as easing transportation within the Jamahiriya, will foster economic integration between African countries.

The longest of the new routes, linking Tripoli and Sebha, was opened by Colonel Qadhafi on 26th August, and stretches for 690 kilometres across the Sahara desert in the western part of the Jamahiriya, via the towns of Al Aziziyeh, Gharyan, Misda al Kariet and Ashwiraf. Built by French and Korean companies at a cost of LD 103.3 million, the route cuts the road distance from Tripoli to Sebha to 778 kilometres, compared with the 953 kilometres along the old road, which ran via Misrata, Abu Karim and Waddan.

Two days later, the Libyan leader formally inaugurated a 626 kilometre road in the eastern part of the Jamahiriya, built at a cost of LD 76.7 million and linking the

coastal town of Agedabia to the south eastern oasis of Kufra, via Jalou. The opening ceremony was also attended by Mr Al Bukhari Salim Houdah, the Jamahiriya's Secretary for Communications and Marine Transport.

Both the Agedabia-Kufra and the Tripoli-Sebha roads form vital links between the Libyan coast and the towns in the desert interior, and, at the same time offer countries to the south important new links with the Jamahiriya, and with the new ports being established on Libya's coast.

On 30th August the Jamahiriya news agency JANA disclosed that the completion of the two new routes has brought the total length of paved road in Libya to 25,675 kilometres, comprising 4,400 kilometres of agricultural roads and 21,275 kilometres of trunk roads.

Hotel shortage eases

UNTIL RECENTLY, visitors to the Jamahiriya were hindered by a shortage of high-quality hotel accommodation, but the situation is now easing as new hotels enter into operation in the main towns and cities. The latest, the Khaus Attiq, in the coastal town of Misrata, was formally opened by Muammer Qadhafi on 28th August.

The hotel, built at a cost of \$32 million by South Korea's Samsung Construction, has six storeys and a floor area of 18,000 square metres. It includes a 230-seat theatre, a two storey studio building and housing for staff. Design was by the Italian firm Inter Planning, Architecture & Planning.

An identical hotel, costing \$34 million, is nearing completion by the South Korean firm in Benghazi.

Town square for Turkish firm

A TURKISH venture of Metis Construction and Trading and Me-Sa Housing Industry has won a \$6.8 million contract to build the main town square in the coastal town of Misrata, 120 kilometres east of Tripoli. The square is being designed by the British firm of Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall & Partners (see page 15), who are expected to be awarded a construction supervision contract once the Turkish award has been signed.

Me-Sa is already working on a housing project in Misrata, under a contract awarded last year. The scheme, which includes construction of 1,260 homes and other buildings, is for completion in two years.

Arab Homeland

15th August: President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the Yemen Arab Republic confers with Muammer Qadhafi by telephone, to brief him on the outcome of moves towards a union between the two Yemens.

22nd August: Tripoli radio discloses that Muammer Qadhafi has conferred by telephone with Morocco's King Hassan.

22nd August: The Jamahiriya news agency JANA announces that Muammer Qadhafi has received a telegram from Mr Nayef Hawatmeh, General Secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, one of the resistance movements linked in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

24th August: Mr Ibrahim Ibrahim Khuwaydir, the Jamahiriya's Secretary for Sports, confers in Tripoli with his Mauritanian counterpart.

26th August: Muammer Qadhafi meets in Tripoli with Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Abdelaziz, Chairman of the Higher Youth Council in Saudi Arabia, and Chairman of the Arab Sports Union, who is attending the Second African Youth Festival.

4th September: Mr Ali Maria, Secretary of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Abu Dhabi, is received by Rashid Abdullah, United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and conveys a message from Muammer Qadhafi to UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al Nahyan, dealing with bilateral relations.

4th September: Colonel Qadhafi meets with a Syrian army delegation, with Mr Khalid Fahoum, Chairman of the Palestine National Council, with Upper Volta's Defence Minister Baptiste Bukhari, and Tunisian Defence Minister Salaheddine Bali. All are in the Jamahiriya to attend the celebrations marking the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution.

5th September: Muammer Qadhafi meets in Tripoli with Abdullah Youssef, Chairman of the Somali National Salvation Front, who attended Libya's Revolution Anniversary celebrations.

6th September: The Jamahiriya news agency JANA announces that Muammer Qadhafi has received a cable from the General Union of Egyptian Youth and Students to mark the Libyan Revolution Anniversary.

11th September: Mr Walid Jumblatt, leader of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party, arrives in Tripoli for talks with Libyan officials.

Jamahiriya

15th August: The Jamahiriya news agency JANA discloses that workers at the Tajoura Transport and Cargo Company, near Tripoli, have taken over the administration of their company, and formed a people's committee to run the enterprise.

1st September: The Libyan people celebrate the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution.

12th September: Colonel Qadhafi tours the irrigation project at Kufra, in the south east of the Jamahiriya. He also inspected designs for a new building for the Kufra Basic People's Congress.

12th September: The Jamahiriya's General People's Congress begins a special session in the south eastern town of Kufra, to discuss plans to pump water from beneath the Sahara for use in the coastal regions.

Jamahiriya economic news

26th August: It is reported that bids will soon be called for a 120 kilometre road running south from Zintan in the north west. The British firm of Wallace Evans & Partners has submitted designs to the main consultant, the Jamahiriya's National Consulting Bureau, Zintan is about 80 kilometres south west of Tripoli.

26th August: It is disclosed that bids have been received for a \$51-61 million sewage treatment plant at the coastal town of Agedabiyeh. Libya's National Consulting Bureau is examining the bids. Consultant for the scheme is Britain's Howard Humphreys & Partners.

12th September: Muammer Qadhafi formally opens the Ghaziyah power station in the south eastern town of Kufra. The 75 MW plant, which cost LD 10 million, will supply electricity to the towns of Kufra, Sarir, Jalou, Auja, Agedabiyeh, Tazerbo and Sirte.

International

16th August: The Jamahiriya news agency JANA discloses that Mr Francoise Lumumba, General Secretary of the Congolese Movement, which is struggling to liberate Zaire from the

Mobutu regime, has cabled revolutionary leader Muammer Qadhafi to express support for Libya against external threats and provocations.

17th August: The Jamahiriya news agency JANA discloses that the Permanent Secretariat of the Progressive Organisation of the Mediterranean has cabled Muammer Qadhafi to express solidarity with the Libyan people against US efforts to undermine their peace and security.

22nd August: JANA announces that Mr Zaher Hussein, Chariman of the Maldives-Libyan Arab Friendship Society, has cabled Muammer Qadhafi to express solidarity with the Jamahiriya.

23rd August: Muammer Qadhafi confers with Mr Moussa Noai, an envoy of President Julius Nyerere, who delivered a message from the Tanzanian leader expressing solidarity with the Libyan people.

26th August: It is disclosed that Trinidad has refused permission for a Nicaragua-bound Libyan airliner to refuel on the Caribbean island.

29th August: Madagascan President Didier Ratsiraka arrives in Tripoli for the celebration marking the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Al Fateh Revolution.

30th August: Muammer Qadhafi confers in Tripoli with the Ambassador of Democratic Korea.

30th August: Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdel Ati al Ubeidi meets in Addis Ababa with the Organisation of African Unity Chariman Mengistu Haile Mariam.

5th September: Muammer Qadhafi holds talks in Tripoli with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshe Wolde, and with Dr Peter Onu, Secretary General of the Organisation of African Unity.

6th September: Brigadier Abu Bakr Younis Jaber, Commander in Chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, meets with a Ghanaian delegation which is in the Jamahiriya for the Revolution Anniversary celebrations.

6th September: Captain Thomas Sankara, who heads Upper Volta's National Revolutionary Council, confers by telephone with Muammer Qadhafi.

11st September: Foreign Liaison Secretary Abdel Ati al Ubeidi receives the credentials of the new Panamanian Ambassador to the Jamahiriya, HE Felipe Rufas.

12th September: The Jamahiriya news agency JANA announces that Muammer Qadhafi has conferred with Beninese Foreign Minister Timiaou Ajibade, who conveyed a letter from Benin's President Ahmad Kerekou.

Isn't it too tight for you?



The GREEN BOOK

BY MUAMMAR AL QADHAFI

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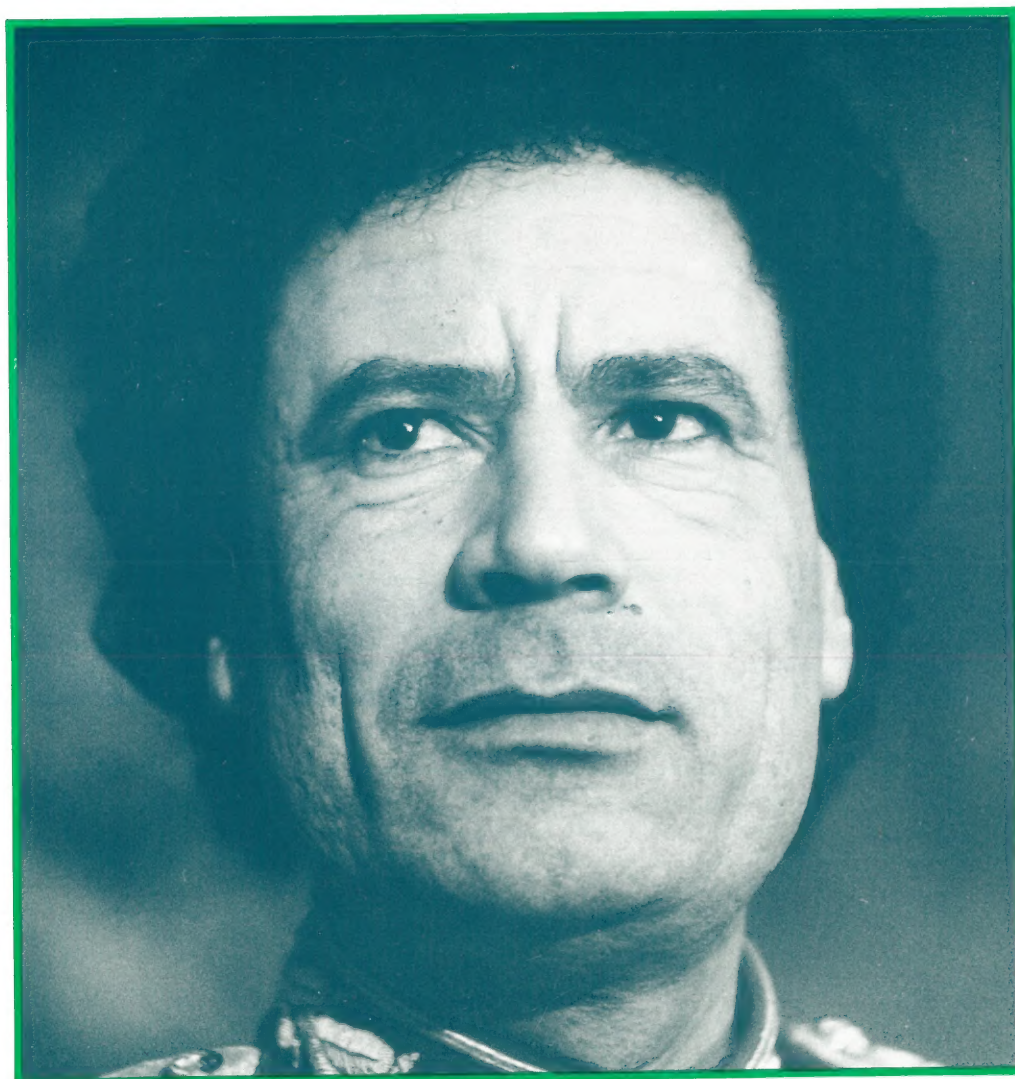
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